

Toronto, Montreal, Buffalo, and Other Leading Markets

Market Comments.

Toronto (Union Stock Yards.)

An offering of seventy-six hundred cattle on sale during the week constituted the heaviest run of the season, and with further liberal supplies in sight, packers were successful in reducing initial costs. Butcher cattle moved generally at a decline of 25 cents to 50 cents on Monday, when twenty-eight hundred cattle were on sale, and further weakness developed on Wednesday, values showing a depreciation ranging from 75 cents to \$1 per hundred from the high point reached on the closing market of the previous week. Trade became a trifle firmer on Thursday and a slight advance in values occurred. The approaching close of the Lenten Season should stimulate the fresh meat trade, while quotations on the American markets are again showing an upward tendency. More interest is being manifested in stocker and feeder cattle, and this should add strength to the cattle trade. The week's offering included many choice cattle, and female stock suitable for the Koshier trade commanded a premium a few extra good sales being made; one choice cow weighing thirteen hundred and ninety pounds sold at \$19 per hundred, a heifer of twelve hundred and thirty pounds sold at \$16, and several sales were made from \$14 to \$15 per hundred. Several carloads of heavy cattle were on the market and a pair averaging thirteen hundred and seventy pounds sold at \$15.50 per hundred, a load weighing twelve hundred and sixty pounds at \$14.35, and three loads of almost equal weight at \$14.25. Of steers between the weights of ten hundred and twelve hundred pounds, nine head which averaged eleven hundred and forty pounds sold at \$14.75 on Tuesday, while most of the sales were made from \$13.25 to \$14, several hundred cattle moving within that range, medium quality was weighed up from \$12 to \$13. Of handy-weight steers and heifers under ten hundred pounds anything showing baby beef quality was in good demand and \$14 to \$14.50 per hundred was paid in a few instances; most of that class, however, moved from \$12.25 to \$13.25 for good quality, medium stock sold from \$10 to \$11.50, and common steers and heifers from \$8 to \$9.50. Choice fat cows were in good demand for the Jewish trade; a few sales were made from \$12 to \$14.50, good cows selling generally from \$10.75 to \$11.75, best bulls moving within a similar range, and three or four bulls of extra quality selling at \$12. The stocker and feeder trade was more active, a good demand existing for grass cows at \$7.50 to \$8.50 per hundred, while feeding steers moved from \$10.50 to \$11.50 and stockers from \$9.50 to \$10.50. Choice milk cows had a good demand and as high as \$175 was paid for best quality with straight loads of choice selling from \$140 to \$150 per head. Calves are commencing to arrive more freely; the week's markets were fairly stationary and top quality sold at \$23 per hundred on every market but Thursday's when \$24 was paid for one calf; most of the offering sold from \$18 to \$22. Included in the receipts were quite a few common calves only a few days old, one load of fifty of these averaging seventy pounds sold at \$10.50 per hundred. This class of stock is undesirable and where possible should be held until more mature; very young calves are only suitable for tankage.

Lamb and sheep receipts were very light. A few choice lambs sold at \$22 and a deck of forty-five head weighing ninety-five pounds each moved at \$21 per hundred, with best light ewes up to \$15.

There is an apparent scarcity of finished hogs in the country, and as a result values are moving higher. On Monday \$19.75 was paid for fed and watered hogs, but on the closing markets an advance of 50 cents to 75 cents was recorded, selects bringing \$20.25 and several decks went at \$20.50. Lights were quoted \$2 lower, and sows \$3 to \$5 lower.

The total receipts from January 1st to March 11th, inclusive, were: 51,388 cattle, 7,367 calves, 67,979 hogs, and 12,849 sheep; compared with 69,059 cattle, 6,753 calves, 72,138 hogs and 24,092 sheep received during the corresponding period of 1919.

Montreal.

There were ten hundred and sixty-

one cattle, one hundred and twenty-six sheep and lambs, twenty-one hundred and forty-four hogs and seventeen hundred and twenty-four calves, on the two market during the week. Cattle arriving Friday and Saturday are nearly always held for the following Monday's market. There were two loads of choice cattle on the market during the week; these averaged eleven hundred and fifteen pounds per head and brought \$14.25 per hundred for twenty-seven of the best steers. A few steers were sold for \$13. The balance of the steers on the markets were of fair quality and moved within a pretty narrow range of price, nearly all sales being made between \$11.75 and \$12.50. Very common light steers brought around \$10. A few of the best heifers and cows were weighed up with steers at \$12.50, while good cows sold up to \$11; fairly fat cows of dairy type brought from \$8.50 to \$9.50, and any cows that were better than canners from \$7 up. The common bulls brought \$8.50 to \$9, and heavier bulls, not fat, sold around \$10. There were about five hundred more calves for sale than during the previous week. Prices for good milk-fed stock declined from \$18 on Monday to \$17 or less on Thursday. One lot of nine calves brought \$19 and a few small lots that were of doubtful age and quality, were disposed of from \$10 to \$13 per hundred. A considerable number of young unfit calves were confiscated by the city officials.

Sheep and lambs reached a top of \$14 and \$18 respectively.

Hogs sold steadily throughout the week at \$21 per hundred weighed off cars. There was very little grading, excepting in the case of sows. An odd light sow got through at select prices. The general cut on sows was \$4 per hundred. The market closed a little uncertain in tone.

Pr. St. Charles.—The total receipts from January 1st to March 11th, inclusive, were: 4,466 cattle, 2,977 calves, 11,019 hogs and 4,628 sheep; compared with 8,011 cattle, 5,094 calves, 12,607 hogs and 4,931 sheep, received during the corresponding period of 1919.

EAST END.—The total receipts from January 1st to March 11th, inclusive, were: 8,151 cattle, 3,996 calves, 7,030 hogs and 3,737 sheep; compared with 9,671 cattle, 2,836 calves, 6,948 hogs and 5,383 sheep, received during the corresponding period of 1919.

Toronto Produce.

Receipts of live stock at the Union Stock Yards, Toronto, on Monday, March 22, numbered 240 cars, 4,202 cattle, 1,024 calves, 2,586 hogs, and 181 sheep and lambs. Slow market, prices fifty to seventy-five cents lower than last week's close. Best steers, \$13 to \$14, with a few at \$14.25. Choice butchers' steers and heifers were \$11.50 to \$12.50. Best cows were \$10.50 to \$11.50; Koshier cows were up to \$16. Calves were steady to one dollar lower. Choice veal was \$20 to \$21. Sheep steady, and lambs \$1 lower; choice, \$19 to \$20. Packers quoted \$19.75, on fed and watered hogs.

Breadstuffs.

Manitoba Wheat.—(In store Ft. William). No. 1 northern, \$2.80; No. 2 northern, \$2.77; No. 3 northern, \$2.73.

Manitoba Oats.—(In store Ft. William). No. 2, C. W., \$1.00; No. 3, C. W., 97½¢; Extra No. 1 feed, 97½¢; No. 1 feed, 96½¢; No. 2 feed, 95½¢.

Manitoba Barley.—(In store Fort William). No. 3 C. W., \$1.75; No. 4, C. W., \$1.56; rejected, \$1.42.

Ontario Wheat.—(f.o.b. shipping points according to freights)—No. 1 winter, per car lot, \$2 to \$2.01; No. 2 winter, per car lot, \$1.98 to \$2.01; No. 3 winter, per car lot, \$1.92 to \$1.93; No. 1 spring, per car lot, \$2.02 to \$2.03; No. 2 spring, per car lot, \$1.98 to \$2.01; No. 3 winter, per car lot, \$1.95 to \$2.01.

American Corn.—(Track, Toronto, prompt shipment). No. 3 yellow, \$1.96; No. 4 yellow, \$1.93, nominal.

Ontario Oats.—(According to freights outside).—No. 1 white, \$1 to \$1.02.

Peas.—(According to freights outside).—No. 2, \$3.

Barley.—(According to freights outside).—Malting, \$1.80 to \$1.82.

Buckwheat.—(According to freights outside).—No. 2 \$1.65 to \$1.67.

Rye.—(According to freights outside).—No. 3, \$1.85 to \$1.88.

Manitoba Flour.—(Toronto)—Government standard, \$13.25.

Ontario Flour.—(In jute bags, prompt shipment)—Government standard, \$10.80 to \$11 Montreal; \$11 Toronto.

Millfeed.—(Car lots, delivered, Montreal freights bags included)—Bran, per ton, \$45; shorts, per ton, \$52; good feed flour, per bag, \$3.60 to \$3.75.

Hay.—(Track, Toronto)—No. 1, per ton, \$27 to \$28; mixed, per ton, \$25.

Straw.—(Track, Toronto)—Car lots, per ton, \$16 to \$17.

Farm Produce.

Butter.—Butter was slightly firmer the past week, selling as follows, wholesale: Fresh-made creamery squares, 68c. per lb.; creamery solids at 65c. per lb.; and choice dairy at 55c. to 60c. per lb.

Eggs.—New-laid eggs again declined in price and are weak at 58c. to 60c. per dozen, wholesale.

Honey.—There are only very light offerings in honey; the strained selling at 25c. to 28c. per lb., and comb from \$5.50 to \$6.50 per dozen, (wholesale).

Cheese.—Sold at practically unchanged prices, wholesale. The old at 32c. per lb., and new at 29c. per lb.

Poultry.—Receipts continued to be light, and prices firm, on chickens, ducks and turkeys, but both live and dressed hens declined in price. The following prices being quoted for liveweight and dressed varieties to the producer. Live-weight prices—Chickens, spring, 30c. per lb.; chickens, milk-fed, 35c. per lb.; ducklings, 40c. per lb.; hens, under 4 lbs., 30c. per lb.; hens, over 5 lbs. 35c. per lb.; roosters, 25c. per lb.; Guinea hens, per pair, \$1.25.

Dressed.—Chickens, young, 35c. per lb.; chickens, milk-fed, 40c. per lb.; ducklings, 40c. per lb.; hens, under 5 lbs., 30c. per lb.; hens over 5 lbs., 35c. per lb.; turkeys, young, 55c. per lb.; roosters, 25c. per lb. Guinea hens, \$1.50 per pair.

Seeds.—Following are the prices that wholesalers were paying for alsike and clover at country points: alsike, No. 1 fancy, bushel, \$33 to \$34; No. 1, \$32 to \$33; No. 2 choice, bushel, \$31 to \$32; No. 3 bushel, \$29 to \$30.

Red Clover, No. 1 fancy, bushel, \$34 to \$35; No. 1 bushel, \$33 to \$34; No. 2, bushel, \$31 to \$32; No. 3, bushel, \$29 to \$30. Sweet clover, No. 1 fancy, \$21 to \$22; choice, \$19 to \$20.

Seeds Retail.

Dealers quote the following retail prices for clover and timothy seeds.

Red clover, high grade No. 1, Government, \$18 per bushel; No. 2 Government, \$15.60 per bushel; No. 3 Government, \$14.60 per bushel. Alsike, high-grade, No. 1 Government, \$45.60 per bushel; No. 2 Government, \$43.80 per bushel; No. 3 Government, \$41.40 per bushel. Alfalfa, high-grade, No. 1 Government, \$39 per bushel; alfalfa, Canadian-grown, No. 1, \$42 per bushel; sweet clover white blossom, fancy, \$29.40 per bushel; sweet clover white blossom, choice, \$27.60 per bushel; timothy, high-grade, No. 1 Government, \$11.52; No. 2 Government, \$10.32 per bushel.

Vegetables.

Onions, \$7 to \$9 per sack (around 100 lbs.).

Parsnips.—\$2.50 to \$2.75 per bag.

Potatoes.—\$4.50 to \$4.75 per bag.

Turnips.—\$1 to \$1.25 per bag.

Buffalo.

Cattle.—Cattle market at Buffalo the past week was strong on butchering grades, but, as the result of a very high price list the previous week on shipping steers and the fact that all of the Western markets were lower, prices on these grades ruled from a quarter to half dollar lower, best native steers ranging from \$14 to \$14.50, with the best heavy Canadian steers running from \$12 to \$13. Handy butchering cattle were very ready sale and mixed butchering lots sold to good advantage. In fact sellers generally are of the opinion that the decent to good, handy, butchering cattle are selling to better advantage—in comparison—than the weightier steers. Bulls of all kinds showed good, firm prices. Supply of stockers and feeders was light and the feeling strong. As spring approaches prices will no doubt be stronger. A good,

strong demand was in evidence on milk cows and springers and general impression among sellers is that these will sell at higher prices a little later on. Receipts for the week totaled 3,800 head, as against 3,475 for the previous week and as compared with 5,575 head for the corresponding week last year. Quotations:

Shipping Steers — Natives — Very choice heavy, \$14 to \$14.50; best heavy, over 1,300, \$13.50 to \$14; fair, over 1,300, \$12.50 to \$13; best, 1,200 to 1,300, \$13.50 to \$14; good, 1,200 to 1,300, \$12.50 to \$13, plain, \$11 to \$11.50.

Shipping Steers — Canadians — Best heavy, \$12 to \$12.50; fair to good, \$11 to \$11.50; medium weight, \$10.75 to \$11; common and plain, \$10 to \$10.50.

Butchering Steers.—Yearlings, fair to prime, \$12.50 to \$14.25; choice heavy, \$12.50 to \$13; best handy, \$12.50 to \$13; fair to good, \$11 to \$11.50; light and common, \$9 to \$10.

Cows and Heifers.—Best heifers, \$10.50 to \$11; good butchering heifers, \$9.50 to \$10; fair butchering heifers, \$8 to \$9; light, common, \$6 to \$7; very fancy fat cows, \$10.50 to \$11; best heavy fat cows, \$9.50 to \$10; medium to good, \$8 to \$9; cutters, \$5.50 to \$6; canners, good, \$4.50 to \$5.25; old rims, \$4 to \$4.50.

Bulls.—Best heavy, \$9.75 to \$10.25; good butchering, \$8.50 to \$9; sausage, \$8 to \$8.50; light bulls, \$7 to \$8; over, \$9 to \$11.50.

Stockers and Feeders.—Best feeders, \$9.50 to \$10; common to fair, \$8 to \$9; best stockers, \$8 to \$8.50; fair to good, \$7.75 to \$8.25; common, \$6 to \$7.

Milkers and Springers.—Good to best, small lots, \$110 to \$135; in car loads, \$90 to \$100; medium to good, small lots, \$85 to \$100; in car loads, \$75 to \$85; common, \$50 to \$55.

Hogs.—Prices were lower the first two days of the past week, but after Tuesday a reaction was had. Heavy hogs, for which there was an indifferent demand all week, had to sell to a big margin under the handier grades. Monday the spread on hogs weighing above 240 pounds was from \$15 to \$16.30 and the more desirable weights brought from \$16.60 to \$16.75, with several decks on the yorkorder \$16.85, packers getting the bulk of the mixed grades at \$16.60. Tuesday heavy hogs sold from \$15.25 to \$16.15, with the yorkers and mixed grades landing mostly at \$16.50; Wednesday the spread on heavies was from \$15 to \$16.35, with handier weights selling at \$16.50 and \$16.60; Thursday light hogs sold from \$16.75 to \$16.90, with heavies ranging on down to \$15, and Friday heavies sold from \$15.50 to \$16.50, with yorkers and mixed grades bringing up to \$17 and \$17.25, few \$17.35. The week opened with pigs selling at \$16.25; Wednesday they ranged from \$15 to \$15.75, and Friday the bulk brought \$16. Light pigs, which were discriminated against, ranged as low as \$10. Good roughs sold around \$13.50 and \$13.75, and stags \$10 down. Receipts the past week were 27,300 head, being against 27,042 head for the week before and 20,100 head for the same week year ago.

Sheep and lambs.—On the opening day of the past week top lambs sold at \$20.50, Tuesday's top was \$20.25, with majority \$20, and the next three days none sold above \$20. It was a slow market all week and the close of each day showed several loads, going over unsold. On cull lambs the range was from \$18.00 down, skips selling as low as \$13.00. Sheep were scarce and prices on these were steady all week. Top yearlings were quoted from \$18 to \$18.25, although one load sold Monday up to \$18.75; best wether sheep were ranged from \$15.50 to \$16, and top ewes \$13.50 to \$14.50. Receipts for the week were 15,400 head, the week before there were 16,210 head and for the same week a year ago the run totaled 18,300 head.

Calves.—A good active market was had all of the past week. Monday tops sold at \$23.50 and Tuesday the bulk brought \$24. Wednesday the general market was 50 cents to a dollar lower; Thursday tops moved at \$23 and \$23.50, and Friday the bulk made \$24. Wednesday and Thursday some Canadian veals sold with a light sort at \$21 and \$22. Cull grades were little changed all week, selling mostly from \$17 down. The week's receipts totaled 5,300 head, as compared with 4,178 head for the week previous and 4,300 head for the same week a year ago. (Continued on page 578)